

Our Washington Letter

WASHINGTON, July 5, 1901.

The Post Office Department has begun a fight in which it is clearly right and in which it will be supported by all the strength of the executive branch of the Government, but notwithstanding those advantages, it must get the support of the press and of public sentiment in order to win a permanent victory. This fight is to shut the fake publications out of the privilege of second-class mail. The Government pays \$60,000,000 a year for carrying second-class mail, and receives less than \$4,000,000 for it. That much of this loss is due to abuses which have crept into the construction of the law—constructions never dreamed of when the law was being enacted—is apparent to everyone who has become at all familiar with what constitutes a large proportion of second-class mail. In fact, from an investigation which has been going on for months, the postal officials have been convinced that fully one-half of the matter now mailed as second-class should, under a strict and perfectly proper construction of the law, be compelled to pay as third-class matter. A new rule for the construction of the law is to be issued by the Post Office Department for the especial purpose of shutting out fake publications. When it is promulgated, lookout for squeals from the owners of the fakes and from such legitimate publications as can be wheedled or paid to say that the business of legitimate publication is being interfered with. These squeals will be worked for all they are worth for their effect upon Congress, where the fight will certainly be carried. Postal officials declare in the most positive terms that the new construction of the law will not injure any legitimate publication, and count upon getting the support of all such.

Capt. L. Craven, who served as Quartermaster of the Thirty-second Volunteer Infantry in the Philippines, and who is now visiting Washington, said of the opportunities offered young Americans in the Philippines: "Manila is the center of a wide field of opportunities for Americans. While in the Quartermaster's Department there, I had deals with many Americans who went there for business purposes. I found that men of business qualifications, common sense and energy did well. I would advise young Americans desiring to go there to acquire a thorough knowledge of Spanish and stenography. They will certainly obtain clerkships in business houses, and if solid, active workers, instead of sharpers and schemers, they will within several years be in business themselves. The Filipinos want good Americans to come to their islands and instill new business and commercial enterprise. In my office were four American boys employed as clerks. They were worth \$100 a month each to corporations in this country. They decided to cast their lot in Manila and remained there. All of them are doing well."

Mr. Paul Sheldon, a New York lawyer, who has just returned from a business visit from all of the islands of the Greater and Lesser Antilles, excepting Cuba and Porto Rico, was asked what the natives of the Danish West India thought of annexation to the United States, which is sure to come, as the conclusion of the negotiations for the purchase of the islands from Denmark is only a matter of time. He replied: "A few wealthy merchants, mostly Danes, oppose the sale of the island, because they are afraid of American enterprise. The natives of all the islands of the Lesser Antilles, I find upon special inquiry, were in favor of annexation. They were very anxious, the French especially. They think they are naturally too far away from their mother countries, and say that the officials sent them are never men with authority who can take hold and alleviate existing evils and burdens. They say these officials never have sufficient influence to accomplish anything really important."

The publication of the action of the Commissioner of Patents in suspending all hearings in appeal cases before himself and the Assistant Commissioner during July and August, seems to have been taken by some to mean that the work of the entire Patent Office was suspended. Such is not the case by any means. The 140 examiners of the Patent Office, who decide the vast majority of cases without an appeal being taken to the Commissioner, are working six

days a week, and will continue right along. C. A. Snow & Co., patent lawyers, whose business before the Patent Office exceeds that of any other firm, says that very few applications for patents, perhaps not more than one in a hundred, will be delayed by the long rest of the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner of Patents.

The President's proclamation declaring free trade with Porto Rico on and after July 25 will be issued as soon as he receives an official copy of the resolution adopted by the legislature of Porto Rico.

New Methods of Nature Study.

It is refreshing to note that nature study is becoming more and more a common feature of school and college work, and also that the methods used are somewhat different from those in vogue some years ago. Time was when the study of birds meant shooting them, or collecting their eggs and nests, and when the ardent student of quadrupeds, insects, reptiles, or any other living thing, felt it necessary to prove his love for his subject by knocking it in the head, and to measure his knowledge by the size of his collection. Thanks to the camera and common sense, things are different now. The naturalist has learned that he can find out more about birds and animals by making friends with them when alive than by dissecting them dead.

At least half of the popular books on nature study which have appeared in the last few years have evidently been the work of the out-door naturalist. The lover of nature takes his camera, his opera-glass, his text-book and his notebook, and hies him to the woods or fields, where he quietly sits down on the ground or props himself against a tree, and keeps very still. It is not his purpose to interrupt, but to watch the housekeeping of his friends in fur and feathers. He knows that the report of a gun or the smell of blood will effectually put a stop to the kind of studying he desires to do. It is not practicable to kill a person and make friends with him at one and the same time, and the rule holds just as good if the person is a squirrel or a robin.

The nature lover, therefore, sits for hours in his chosen place, tramps for miles over wood-paths or through untrodden wilderness, not for the sake of bringing home a well-filled bag of game, but in order to store his head with interesting information. He wants to find out, perhaps, what the habits of a certain bird are, and how its song at certain seasons of the year differs from the mere twitter heard at other seasons; what it lives on, and how far north it ranges. Can he discover all these things by lying in wait for the bird and shooting it, or taking it home to live the rest of its short life in a cage? Nothing of the kind; this is a case in which he, not the bird, must pay for his knowledge. So, like an honest man, he pays, and in return learns more not only about that bird, but about various other creatures met in his travels, than the mere sportsman would know if he hunted a hundred years.

Old woodsmen, it is true, often know a great deal of the habits of wild things, not only from the hunter's, but the naturalist's, point of view; but it is well known that they seldom hunt for mere sport, and never kill more than they need for actual consumption or for sale. One does not find an Adirondack guide running amuck in the woods, blazing away at everything he sees. Powder and shot are too precious for one thing. Consequently the people in fur and feathers, not desired by him for food or other purposes, soon learn to know him, and he understands them. Sometimes he is not much of a sportsman in the ordinary sense of the term. And the men who attend to the preserving of game and the care of forests know quite as much of woodcraft as those who live by shooting the wild creatures.

LOW RATE TO BUFFALO.

If you are going to the Exposition, or any other point East, do not make your arrangements until you have secured rates from the Burlington Route. They will interest you. Call or write for full particulars. R. W. Foster, Ticket Agent Burlington Route, corner Third and Stark Sts., Portland, Ogn.

J. H. Miller invites the people of Junction and vicinity to call and see the new 1901 Rambler bicycles. If you are thinking about buying a wheel, it will pay you to look at the Rambler before you make a purchase. Just notice the number of these wheels in use. That is the best advertisement it can have.

B. S. Hyland & Co.,

Real Estate Dealers.

Have the following farm lands for sale. Any inquiries in regard to same will receive prompt attention:

30 acres of the finest land in Lane county, one mile east of Junction City. This land is all in grass but 4 1/2 acres. Price \$30 per acre.

160-acre farm four miles east of Harrisburg, in Linn county; 140 acres in cultivation; young orchard; new house, fair barn; plenty of water; \$25 per acre.

160-acre farm, 2 1/2 miles east of Harrisburg; 130 acres in cultivation; balance meadow; good improvements; house, barn, orchard; 1 1/2 miles to school house. \$25 per acre.

220 acres, two miles south of Harrisburg; 90 acres under cultivation, balance timber, maple, ash, etc.; no building; new fence around cultivated land; Harrisburg water ditch runs through land; good deed; known as south half of old Mansfield donation claim; \$10 per acre.

200 acres of good level farm land, three miles south from Harrisburg; about 110 acres in cultivation; 30 acres in light timber; 10 acres in hops; splendid orchard of 4 acres; school house 1 1/2 miles distant. This farm is well fenced and plenty of water. The property has been previously held at \$22 1/2 per acre. It can now be purchased for \$20. If you were to look the length and breadth of the Willamette Valley you couldn't find a better bargain. The owner netted \$900 from the 10 acres of hops the past season.

400 acres of fine prairie land, 4 miles southeast of Junction City, on the river road, and 10 miles north of Eugene; 300 acres under cultivation; 60 acres fine hard wood timber; residence and two barns; but little gravel; 12-acre orchard; well fenced. Can be divided east and west so as to give each half part of timber. Will be divided or sold as a whole to suit. Price \$35 per acre. This is the old Hallin farm, and is worth \$50 an acre.

800 acres, 2 1/2 miles southwest of Junction City; 250 acres under cultivation; 50 acres timber, oak and ash; watered by the Long Tom and several small lakes, over 10 miles of fence, divided into 10 fields and pastures; could be divided into 3 farms and each one could have a good road all graded and graveled all the way to Junction City; 3 stock barns 40x50; 1 barn 60x72; blacksmith shop, hay scales, wagon shed and machine shed; out buildings and a dwelling house of 8 rooms, good as new, cost \$2000; two orchards, all kinds of fruit and berries. Price, \$14 per acre. Easy terms. A great bargain.

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Such as
Whale Oil Soap,
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Cabbage,
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Use Insect Powder or Heliothore.
Ask us for prices.

Muller & Hill,
Prescription Druggists.

The BULLETIN is in receipt of a handsomely illustrated booklet entitled, "Health and Pleasure Along the Line of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company." The book contains a number of views of picturesque mountains, river and ocean scenery, and it is all described in an accurate and pleasing style. Persons contemplating an outing this summer should have a copy of this booklet, as it will enable you to decide where to spend your summer vacation. The book may be procured free from any agent of the O. R. & N. Co., or on receipt of a two-cent postage stamp, from A. L. Craig, General Passenger Agent, Portland, Or.

SOMETHING NEW!

Just published by the Southern Pacific Co. is a pamphlet upon the resources of Western Oregon, which includes an excellent map of the state, and contains information on climate, lands, education, etc., existing industries and their capabilities.

Attention is also directed to such new fields for energy or capital as promise fair return.

This publication fills a need long experienced by Oregonians, in replying to inquiries of Eastern friends.

Copies may be had of local agent S. P. Co., or from C. H. MERRIAM, G. P. A., Portland, Or.

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This is what the established rate amounts to in each direction making \$86 for the round trip, and by arranging with the Burlington Route passengers are given choice of seven trains on dates of sale. Call upon or write us for full particulars before making other arrangements. R. W. Foster, Ticket Agent, Burlington Route, corner Third and Stark streets, Portland, Oregon.

INORAM FERRY NOTICE.

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ON TO YAQUINA BAY.

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The courses and excursions at the Summer School, of 1901, at Newport, will afford great variety of instruction, diversion and entertainment.

No other resort offers equal attractions and advantages.